(Full Report on Page Two.)

NUMBER 10,089.

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 27,) 1917.

**BROAD POWER** 

FOR WILSON IN

Foreign Relations Committee

Probably Will Report Meas-

ure Today.

PARTISAN LINES FORGOTTEN

Republicans Show Disposition

to Give Wilson Latitude in

Present Crisis.

nittee will probably report to the

Senate a resolution which will look

to the immediate arming of merchant

nen against attack by German sub-

This was strongly indicated short-

ly after noon today when the com-

mittee adjourned after a session of

that it was making progress on a

modification of the Flood bill and

would meet again at 2:30 this after-

soon in an effort to complete the

While the language of the bill is not yet finally determined upon, it

was declared by members of the com-mittee that it would probably indi-cate the sentiments of the committee

that the time has already come for

Will Confer Powers.

and American rights and will author

ize the proposed bond issue of \$100,000,000 which is provided for in the bill introduced in the House by Mr.

Willing to Assist.

publicans of the committee this morn

A report by the Foreign Relation

Committee of a resolution or bill which Republicans on the committee

as well as Democrats support does

against it on the floor of the Senate

Outcome Uncertain.

What the outcome will be is still

highly uncertain. Senator La Fol-

object to seeing the country drift

ate are by no means united on the question of how far the President

Those who hold that his authority should be extremely limited may yel-block the passage of any bill or reso-

(Continued on Eleventh Page.)

The Times'

Local News

of paper, The Times is con-

stantly increasing its news

service and space. In local

news especially has it added

to both quantity and quality

until it is printing more local

news than any paper in the

city. The record for the six

week days of last week was:

All the News in The Times

784

495

341

514

THE TIMES. 133

Next paper... 95

Next paper... 65

Next paper... 64

Despite the increased cost

should be granted authority.

var are expected to oppose the

The Republicans in the Sen-

hold that his authority

there will be no fillbuster

tables in the

scheduled to participate.

The situation which developed in

More than this, the bill, or resolu-

work of shaping the measure.

erchant ships to be armed.

marines.

The Washington Times

PRICE ONE CENT.

# SENATE READY TO ACCEDE TO CLERKS' RAISE

Overman, Head of Conference Committee, Admits House Has Won Fight.

INCREASE NOW IS ASSURED

Bill Sent Back to Conferees With Victory for Federal Employes in Sight.

The Senate will give way to the House on the legislative bill, on the agricultural bill and other measures Not providing higher rates of pay for clerks and employes. This was made known today by

Senator Overman, head of the Conference committee on the legislative bill. He said the House had won The legislative bill was sent back to conference by the Senate with the understanding the Senate would yield,

In other words, a general increase of pay for Government employes is assured amounting to 10 per cent for employes who do not receive over \$1,200 and to 5 per cent for employes receiving over \$1,200 and not over \$1,800.

Additional pay of about \$25,000,000 per annum for Government employes

### Victory for Federal Employes.

When the legislative oill was brought up by Senator Overman on the floor today, he recounted what, had occurred in the Democratic cauous, when the economy resolution was passed, and also referred to the fact that the Senate had stood for the Smoot amendment. In view of the ac-tion on the Indian bill, however, he said the Senate conferees would recede and yield to the House in the matter

cording sent back to conference and the controversy over pay, it is be-lieved, is close to the end with a sweeping victory for the Federal em-must now amend the rule by pro-

Senator Smoot said he thought it would have been better to increase by 15 per cent the pay of those not receiving over \$480, but he did not charge of the rule calling up the prohibi-

## The conferees of the Senate and

House are expected today to agree quickly to legislation in all appropriation bills providing for a 5 and 10 per cent horizontal increase in the salaries of Government clerks, as originally

proposed by the House.

Action of the Senate last night virtually assures a House victory all along the line. The Senate wrote into the Indian bill the 5 and 10 per cent amendment, in lieu of the Senate amendment, and the House today sent back to conference the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation bill, in order that the conferees might agree to the House provision in that

sudden reversal of Senate sentiment last night caused Congressman Byrns of Tennessee, in charge of the legis-lative bill, to ask the House today not to accept his conference report, but to send the bill back to confer

## Precedent Will Be Followed.

In conference the managers are scheduled to agree promptly to the 5 and 10 per cent raises and the conference reports will go through both The precedent established in the In-

in all the supply billst-he District of Columbia, sundry civil agricultural, legislative, executive and judicial and the postoffice measures.

The House provision, written into the Indian bill by the Senate, carries

bill doubtless will be followed

increases as follows: For employes receiving less than

\$1,200 per annum, a 10 per cent in-crease during the next flecal year. For employes receiving from \$1,200 to \$1,800, inclusive, a 5 per cent inrease during the next fiscal year.
While the appropriation bills of provisions covering the next fiscal

it is not expected the Conwill take a backward step and

## PARIS LOSES AMMUNITION

### Explosion on February 2 Kills 200. Injures 700.

BERLIN (via Sayville wireless), Feb. 27.—"On February 22 a terible explosion took place in the munition works at Paris, which ruined more than \$0,000 tons of ammunition and killed 200 persons," declared the official press agency today, quoting a Frankfurier Zeitung report via Switzerland from a private source in zerland from a private source Paris." Seven hundred were wounded.

## "HOSTILE TRADERS" SUNK

### Berlin Provides Statistics of U-Boat -Activities for January.

BERLIN (via Sayville Wireless), Feb. 27.—During January 127 hostile BERLIN (via Sayville Wireless).

Peb 27.—During January 127 hostile merchant ships, totaling 365,000 gross tons, were lost by war measures of the conferees cut the original fig.

The conferees cut the original fig.

It is said Norworth, after being the central powers," said an official statement issued today.
"In addition 58 neutral merchant

with 103,500 gross tons, were cause they carried contraband for the enemy.

versels, with 439,500 gross tons,"

probe. Page 4. Revised plans for Key bridge begun. Page 2. Fighting nations "bunched" parade. Page 2.

## DRY BILL MAY MEET DELAY

OFF FIRST PAGE

Eighteen killed in railroad wreck.

Clergy and laity praise Gypsy

Germans pressed hard in retreat.

City market may be result of food

Smith. Page 6.

Page 5.

Yet Decided Whether House Will Take It Up or Administration Measure.

The District prohibition bill and the Administration measure to meet the international situation vied for preferential consideration in House today.

Early this afternoon it had not the measure authorizing the President to arm merchant ships and em-ploy other means to protect Ameri-

A special rule from the Rules Committee is necessary to bring either bill before the House. It was originally intended by the Rules Committee to force a vote this afternoon on the Sheppard prohibition bill. The program, however, may be changed and the Flood bill hearing upon the international situation may be reach-

Sheppard Bill Reported.

Chairman Johnson, of the House District Committee, formally reported to the men at a meeting to be held the Sheppard bill at noon today, in accordance with the previous order of the committee. Having prepared a

tion bill, said it had not been decided just what hour the rule will be reported. "The District bill," said Mr. Harreson, "will be considered, whether or not the international situation measure is taken fore or after District prohibition

Matter-of-fact Document. The report of the District Committee on the Sheppard bill is a matter-

of-fact document, and does not comment on the merits or demerits of prohibition. It merely presents the Sheppard

bill to the House with the numerous amendments written into it by the District Committee yesterday and Saturday

Except for the amendments relat-ing to a "bone-dry" District and a referendum, the amendments are of when it looked as though the Sen ate would hold out for the Smoot amendment the House conferces on the legislative bill yielded to the upper chamber and reluctantly accepted the Smoot amendment. The cut short at any time by an arbitrary rule. be cut short at any time by an ar bitrary rule.

#### May Bring New Sule. It was intimated today by a mem

ber of the Rules Committee that if an effort is made to talk the Sheppard bill "to death" the Rules Com mittee is prepared to bring in a supplementary rule arbitrarily shut ting off debate and forcing a vote. It is still a safe guess that no amendment whatsoever to the Shep pard bill will be approved by the House because the lower body will not take the risk of sending the ry" bill back to the Senate,
Passage of the Sheppard bill with

the next forty-eight if not SENATE ADDS 4 JUSTICES.

## Adopts Bill Augmenting D. C. Supreme and Appeals Benches.

With practically no opposition today the Senate passed the bill to add two justices to the District Supreme Court and two justices to the Court of Appeals.

Senator Overman called the bill up on the floor today and declared it was necessary that action be taken. Unanimous consent was obtained. Against the protest of Senator Over nan, Senator Les of Tennessee added

an amendment providing for an addi tional judge for the middle Tennessee Today's Senate action is believed practically to assure additional jus-tices for the two courts, both the Dis-trict Supreme Court and the Court of

## **OBJECTS TO PARK LIMIT**

### President Westlake, of Civic Association, Writes to Senate

A protest against the action of the onferees in eliminating from the District appropriation bill an item of \$87,000 for the acquisition of Klingle Valley as a part of Rock Creek Park,

said an official ure to \$25,000 and provided that the appropriation should be used to build appropriation should be used to build who is not an actress, hurried here a culvert under the Connecticut ave from London without finishing his

nue crossing.

Members of the citizens' association

## BIG NEWS FORCED ASKS CARMEN TO AID SUCCESS OF INAUGURAL

W. R. & E. Co. Appeals to Men to Defer Wage Issue Till After March 5.

CALLED DUTY TO PRESIDENT

Company's Answer Will Be Read at Union Meeting Thursday.

In its reply to the demands of its employes for increased wages, the Washington Railway and Electric Company today appealed to the loyalty of the men to the company, the city and the country and suggested that discussion of the questions at issue be deferred until after the inauguration. The action was exclusively forecasted in The Times yesterday.

The company asks that the employes contribute their share for a successful inauguration by co-operating with the traction officials, the Dis trict 'Commissioners and the entire been decided whether the House shall city in discharging "this duty which first take up the prohibition bill or all of us owe to the President and the nation."

"We will then have ample time to calmly consider the situation and shall be pleased to take up any matters pertaining to the interests of our employes, as we have always been willing to do," President Clarence King said in his reply.

Not Addressed to Union. At the headquarters of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Elec ric Railway Employes, Local 659, of ficials of which presented the demands, said the reply would be read

union would predict what action special rule to discharge the District would be taken by the assembled committee, the Rules Committee unionists on the reply, it was pointed widing that the bill which has been reported by the District board shall be in order.

Congressman Harrison, who will have employes of the rule calling up the prohib. and Electric Company," and not as

representatives of the union.
Officials of the union said the opening peragraph of the reply made it
plain that the Washington Rallway and Electric Company had not recog-nized the union, and evidently did not intend doing so. This was one of the saues involved in last year's strike.

## Letter to Carmen.

willing and anxious to give the Pres ident authority to arm ships and that The Washington Railway and Elec they want him to make prompt use tric Company's reply follows: "We are in receipt of a recent com-nunication which asks this company the committee are opposed to giving the President practically absolute au

in lieu of the existing contract with our employes, to consider the making (Continued on Tenth Page.)

## BOOSE BOAT IN BATTLE.

### Captain and Mate of Elizabeth C. Wounder and Prisoners.

IRVINGTON, Va., Feb. 27.-Capt. Ike Bozman and mate of the schooner Elizabeth Clark, which has been cruising in the waters of the Rappabannock river selling whisky it is alleged, in violation of the State prohibition laws, were prisoners in Lancaster county jail today, both badly wounded, as a result of an engagement between the schooner and the State oyster boat, Commodore Maury near here, in which teh State versel is reported to have swept the decks of the schooner with a three-inch gun.

A command to surrender is reported to have brought only a string of oaths and a volley of pistol shots lette and other Senators who greatly from the other vessel. Captain Dogget then brought his gun into play.

## GUARD STOPS LANSING .

### White House Policeman Insists on an Identification.

Secretary of State Lansing ountered the White House censorship lution and may succeed in forcing an this morning.

Entering the White House grounds y the west gate when summoned by the President for a conference on the Lacodia tragedy, Secretary Lansing was held up by a White House police

"The Secretary of State," Mr. Lansing said by way of giving the pass-word. But this did not satisfy the White House guard, who then called Dalrymple. The passed the Secretary with alacrity.

## EXIT NORWORTH DIVORCE

### Actor's Wife Drops Her Suit, and Reconciliation is Reported.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.-A divorce suit brought by Mary Norworth against Jack Norworth, the actor.

It is said Norworth, after being

A reconciliation followed, it is remit for the enemy.

The total month's losses were 228 flict with existing projects for the seels, with 439,800 gross fons.

And the Norworths, who have touch the total month's losses were 228 flict with existing projects for the two children, are now an unlitigated extension of Rock Creek Park.

## TEXT OF CONSUL FROST'S MESSAGE

CLEAR CUT CASE NEEDING NO PROBE;

OFFICIALS BELIEVE IT IS OVERT ACT

WILSON CALLS SINKING OF LACONIA

QUEENSTOWN, Feb. 27 .- "Deaths of Mrs. and Miss Hoy, as previously reported, are positively confirmed. Cedric B. Ivatt, New York, probably American, is apparently lost.

"Total survivors landed here, 267; landed at Bantry, 14; total on board,

SENATE BILL "Missing, 13, of whom five drowned and eight, including Hoy ladies, died of exposure and were buried at sea.

> "There are six hospital cases, one believed grave. "First torpedo struck abaft engine. Steamer going seventeen to eighteen knots. Engine stopped and ship turned, listing starboard, so that most boats got off that side.

"Twenty minutes later, when most boats were clear, submarine fired second torpedo, striking engine port side.

"Ship sank in about 45 minutes from first torpedo. "Had fired six rockets when seen by admiralty patrol. Wireless also used up to last moment. Boats scattered two or three miles in swells twelve feet high. Burned flares and were picked up between 3 and 4 a. m. 26th instant.

"WESLEY FROST, Consul."

## President's Action Not Yet Decided-Crisis To Be Taken Up By Cabinet This Afternoon.

President Wilson regards the sinking of the Cunard liner Laconia by a German submarine as a "clear cut case requiring more than two hours and announced no further investigation."

> This was the statement made in official quarters at 12:30 o'clock this afternoon following an hour's conference between the President and Secretary of State Lansing.

### BELIEVED TO BE OVERT ACT.

It was indicated that the President conversation the official declared, he egards the outrage as the "overt act" could not say what the President would do when the "overt act" ocregards the outrage as the "overt act" against which he solemnly warned Germany in his message to Congress of February 3, announcing the sever ance of diplomatic relations.

It is not yet known definitely, how tion as the committee is expected to ever, what the President is going to report it, will confer broad powers on do. . The Cabinet was scheduled to the President with respect to the meet at 2:30 o'clock to discuss the means of protecting American life

situation. It is thought not unlikely that the President may go before Congress again within the next twenty-root hours and detail with definiteness the steps he proposes to take under the authority he has asked from Congress

### to protect American shipping. Hadd Full Reports.

the committee today showed that the Republicans of the committee are When the Secretary of State went the White House he had with him detailed reports on the Laconia sinking from Consul Frost at Queenstown These reports stated specifically that While some of the Republicans on the vessel was sunk without warning at night, and that two American women, Mrs. Mary E. and Miss Eliza-beth Hoy, of Chicago, lost their lives. thority to use such means as he sees fit, they have found that apart from the arming of ships it is difficult to The consensus of opinion was that gallery, reads: the President would not declare war; that he would expect Congress to go specify exactly what means should be authorized. extraordinary lengths to grant hir the powers he asked for yesterday to arm American ships and to use "other instrumentalities" that may be necesing showed a disposition to give the President much latitude. "It is understood that the emergsary to protect American shipping and that even before such authority

#### to arm the ships. . No Extra Session.

ency peace committee, which is actively working in this city to avert the entrance of the United States in to the European war, is making a strong effort to secure Mr. Bryan for a meeting to be held tomorrow night at which Jane Addams and other no tables in the peace movement are But it was also believed among officials that the Laconia sinking would not swerve him from his desire not to call an extra session of Congress. "It is possible that a number of neetings may be planned for different even though Congress only can de-

No better illustration can be given to show the dilemna in which mem of the President's own official circle find themselves in seeking to forecast his action, than that furnished today by a Cabinet officer, Accorig to this official he recently asked would regard as an "overt act.

## TAKES DATH SUNDAY.

### Will Take No Chances of There Being Legal Dispute.

Plans to have the President take the oath of office at the Capitol next Sunday, March 4, instead of at the White House, were under consideration today.

The President has decided to take the oath of office Sunday so that there may be no legal dispute, which might arise if he should delay tak ing oath until the inaugural ceremonies to be held March 5.

It is considered likely that the President will again take the oath when he goes to the Capitol for the inaugural ceremonies.

## TO OPEN BIDS FOR GUNS

### Weapons for Navy Department Are Effective Against Submarines.

Bids will be opened by the Navy Department tomorrow for 2,400 onepound guns and mounts, 350 3-inch guns and mounts, and several 4 and 5-inch mounts.

These guns are the type most effect tive against submarines, and are the size gung that would be mounted on merchant ships in case Congress so of the civic organization so ordered.

curred. All Elements Involved. This same official did not hesitate to express it as his opinion that the

circumstances of the Laconia case involved all the elements of such an act. "It's the Lusitania case all over again." he said, "with the exception that through reasons of good fortune not as many lives were lost as in the former case. It is to be hoped that Congress will now speed up and grant

the President the authority for which The inference that William J. Bryan, former Secretary of State, is rushing back to Washington from Miami, Fis., to sid in staging a peace demonstration in the present interna tional crisis, may be drawn from a statement issued today by Congress man Bailey of Pennsylvania, a pacifist

Democrat and Bryan follower. After saying Mr. Bryan is en route to attend a Nebraska semi-centennial banquet here tomorrow Bailey statement, as sent to the press

Canceled Engagements. "It is understood that Mr. Bryan the affair on account of pressing engagements in the South, later determining to cancel these in order to participate in the program arranged his friends of the Nebraska So-

Senator Stone, Overman, and Hitchcock, prominent Democrats, are not satisfied with the language of the measure which was sent to the Capitol by the White House. They want it modified and made less sweeping. They are more conservative in this respect than the rest of the Democrats on the committee or the Re-

publicans bill as presented by Mr. Flood in the House, there is a clause which empowers the President to arm merchant ships, "should it, in It is understood the expression quoted will be cut out, thus The President is said by this of-ficial to have replied that he could not define it, but that he and the whole country would recognize it when they saw it. Even after this inent part in rewriting the measure.

## TO PROBE "BREAD TRUST"

### Trade Commission Calls Congress man Rainey As Witness.

One of the first definite steps planned by the Federal Trade Commission in its \$400,000 food price investigation today is the calling of Congressman Henry T. Rainey, Illinois, to tell what he knows about a "fast forming trust to keep up the prices

Rainey, who charged formation of the trust Saturday, is delighted at the opportunity, he said. "It is singular," he said, "that no coner did the bakers begin a campaign to increase the prices of bread

## than potatoes went up. too. i will tell the commission everything." RIFLE MEDAL PRESENTED

#### P. T. Moran Turns Over Token to F. C. Johnston.

P. T. Moran, chairman of the edu cational committee of the Chamber under the pain of death from travelof Commerce, today presented F. C. Johnston, a former student in McKir ley Manual Training School, the medal given yearly to the school boy making the highest aggregate score in the annual rifle matche In the annual rifle matches.

The exercises were held before the student body at McKinley.

Johnston was a student in Tech Johnston was a student in rech when the medal was won, and was patches reaching here today.

The eight were part of twenty-two fine civic organization so constructed as to form a target.

Desure in open soats, accounted to the construction of the rech without the civic organization so constructed as to form a target.

# SIX AMERICANS BELIEVED ADDED TO DEATH TOLL

Latest Reports Indicate Members of Laconia's Crew From U. S. Lost Lives.

TWO WOMEN ALSO IN LIST Died From Exposure and Were

Buried at Sea-Others in Hospitals. NEW YORK, Feb. 27 .- Six Americans of the twenty Americans listed

in the crew of the Laconia lost their lives when the big Cunarder was sunk Sunday, according to the best figures available today. The Cunard line list named twenty American seamen and trimmers sign-

ed when the ship left this port and the company said one or two others may have been signed. Consul Frost names fifteen American seamen saved. He accounts for fourteen named by the Cunard company and gives one

### name not listed in the statement. Americans Reported Missing. A check-up of the Cunard list of

Americans signed and the Prost list of survivors gives the following as missing:

H. Sheppard, foreman, New York, L. Donnell, trimmer, New York.

A. Dwyer, trimmer, New York. P. Cleveland, trimmer, Brooklyn. F. Coffey, trimmer, Brooklyn.

William Hughes, sailor, Astoria, N. The Cunard Het gives the name of Benjamin Carler, of New York, as among the Americans in the crew.

Consul Frost lists Benjamin Parker, New York, as among the saved. Louis Darnell, survivor listed by Frost, was not carried in the Cunard announcement regarding the crew.

Latest London Estimate. LONDON, Feb. 77 .- The Cunard Company at 1 o'clock today issued this bulletin:

"Laconia's passengers dead, three "Missing, three.

"Crew missing, six, "Crew in hospital, six."

Two American women were among the thirteen killed in a German submarine's liner Laconia.

They were Mrs. Mary (Mrs. Albert Harris) Hoy, and Miss Elliabeth Hoy.

American Consul Frost at Queenstown. this report to the Am

beasy here today, adding that the four other Americans abroad the ship were saved They were Floyd P. Gibbons, Mrs. F. E. Harris, A. T. Kirby, and the R.

Father Waring. Cedric P. Ivatt, reported missing, perished according to latest information. Ivatt was manager for the act-

Women Burled At Sea. Mrs. Hoy and Miss Hoy died from exposure in an open boat. They were buried at sea. Six others who survived the two torpedoes launched at the Cunarder, likewise succumbed to their suffering while waiting eight ho open boat until reacued. They were buried at sea. Five were drowned. Six others were reported by American Consul Frost to be in hospitals recovering from injuries or exposurs.

At Queenstown 267 survivors were unded. Bantry, Ireland, reported fourteen arriving there. Thus the total proven death list to thirteen, two American women.
Survivors at Queenstown reported an admirable discipline among officers and crew of the liner, and little of anything like a panic. The lights went out immediately afterithe

#### torpedo struck, and this caused some alight confusion. Two Find Mark.

Two torpedoes found their mark in the vessel, the first exploding at the stern and the other farther forward. The weather was comparatively calm, but there was a heavy swell

papers today was almost une in the belief that the Laconia was "a second Lusitania." London editors professed their belief that President Wilson's "overt act" had been accom-

plished in this torpedoing.
"If it is ignored or condoned," declared the Chronicle, "what will in effect be admitted by the American Govern ment is the claim that Germany has a right to prohibit American citizens

## Eight Die From Exposure.

QUEENSTOWN, Feb, 27.-Eight of those who left the Laconia in lifeboats which were lated picked up and brought into Bantry, died from exposure in open boats, according to dis-